GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:224
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2015
Coastal Management
Dhotre Shri Sanjay Shamrao;Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the existing policy on Coastal Management envisages security to coastal communities,conservation and protection of the coastal stretches and promotion of sustainable development in the coastal areas and if so, the details thereof;
(b) whether the Government proposes to review this policy in the light of various suggestions/representations received from various quarters and if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether the Government has demarcated hazard line in the coastal areas of the country and if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;
(d) the time by which hazard line is likely to be demarcated across the country; and
(e) the other steps taken/being taken by the Government for coastal management in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) to (e) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

***

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (e) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No.224 to be answered on Tuesday, the 15th December, 2015 on 'Coastal Management' raised by Shri Sanjay Dhotre and Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab

(a) The existing policy on coastal management as laid down in the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 2011 and Island Protection Zone (IPZ) Notification, 2011 issued under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 envisages to ensure livelihood security to the coastal communities, to conserve and protect coastal stretches and its marine area and to promote sustainable development on scientific principles taking in to account the dangers of natural hazards in the coastal areas and sea level rise. These Notifications demarcate Coastal regulation zones and island protection zones in coastal stretches; and regulate and restrict setting up and expansion of any industry, operations or processes and manufacture or handling or storage or disposal of hazardous substances in the aforesaid zones.

CRZ Notification, 2011 provides for special dispensation to the local coastal community including permission for reconstruction and repair works of dwelling units in accordance with local town and country planning norms. The notification further provides for ex-post facto approval to construction and repair activities of dwelling units of traditional coastal communities which were undertaken after 1991 without any approval. The construction/reconstruction of dwelling units of traditional coastal communities including fisher folk is permitted between 100 and 200 metres from the HTL along the seafront in accordance with a comprehensive plan prepared by the State Government or the Union Territory in consultation with the traditional coastal communities including fisher folk.

The special dispensation in CRZ regulation for local communities include the delegated authority to local governments including Panchayats for approval of housing and fishing activities in designated CRZs. In Greater Mumbai, reconstruction and repair works of the dwelling units, belonging to fisher communities and other local communities as identified by the State Government, can be considered and granted permission by the Competent Authorities on a priority basis, in accordance with the applicable Town and Country Planning Regulations. In Kerala, beyond 50mts from the High Tide Line (HTL) on the landward side of backwater islands, dwelling units of local communities can be constructed with the prior permission of the Gram Panchayat. In the CRZ of Goa, the Government can notify the fishing villages wherein all foreshore facilities required for fishing and fishery allied activities such as traditional fish processing yards, boat building or repair yards, net mending yards, ice plants, ice storage, auction hall, jetties can be permitted by Grama Panchayat in the CRZ area. Further, the reconstruction, repair works of the structures of local communities including fishermen community is permissible in CRZ.

As per the IPZ Notification, 2011, integrated islands protection zones of Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep Islands are required to be managed in accordance with the Integrated Islands Management Plan and Integrated Coastal Regulation Zone Plans by their respective UT Administrations.

(b) The Government has initiated the process to review the CRZ Notification, 2011 in the backdrop of issues raised by the certain

Coastal States. An Expert Committee has examined these issues and submitted its report to this Ministry.

(c) & (d)The hazard line demarcation is mandatory under the CRZ Notification, 2011. The Government has started demarcation of hazard line taking into account, tide, waves, sea level rise and shoreline changes all along the mainland coastline of the country through Survey of India. The aerial photography of the mainland coastline and photogrammetry for the west coast has been completed, and the remaining works are scheduled for completion by 31.12.2017.

(e)The Ministry has commissioned a World Bank assisted Integrated Coastal Zone Management Project, which is aimed at preparation of integrated coastal zone management plans for selected coastline stretches of these states through community participation, capacity building and institutional development in the area of coastal management. The phase-I of the project covers Gujarat, Odisha and West Bengal. The Government of India in July, 2015 have approved the Phase-II of the project to cover remaining coastal States and Union Territories.

*****